

I am very much in favor of the NAB's petition for a Declaratory Ruling on satellite radio's broadcasting of local weather and traffic and future plans to expand their reach into local radio. I believed, as did most local broadcasters, that we would not be harmed by these companies and their services. Now it is clear that XM and Sirius plan to compete on a local level and with 120 channels each, they intend to mimic local radio. In Biloxi, we operate four stations who provide local weather, news and traffic. It is expensive to provide this service but it is very important to our community. In 1998, our area depended on us to keep them informed when Hurricane Georges' hit the Coast. This service distinguishes us from satellite radio, however, they have no public interest limits or ownership limits. They have no local investment in my community. Our commitment is evident. Local broadcasters gave over \$9.6 billion to local communities in 2003. In 2004, our stations have helped to raise over \$650,000 for charities and have provided thousands of commercials to benefit local charities, causes and organizations. The FCC authorized a national-only satellite service. It is up to the FCC to enforce it and safeguard the important service that terrestrial radio provides.